

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 157670
ORIGIN SS-25

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 157670

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C O R R E C T E D COPY(PARA 2, LINE 19 OMITTED)

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PGOV, SHUM, CI

SUBJECT: THE LETELIER/MOFFITT ASSASSINATION INVESTIGATION

1. FOLLOWING MESSAGE SENT AT REQUEST OF ASSISTANT U.S.
ATTORNEY PROPPER TO AMBASSADOR LANDAU:

2. QUOTE. MICHAEL TOWNLEY SPOKE TO HIS WIFE, MARIANA
INES CALLEJAS DE TOWNLEY, ON 20 JUNE, 1978 AT 1330 HOURS.
SHE INDICATED THAT PRESIDENT PINOCHET, THE ARMY AND CNI
WERE SUING HER OR WERE INSTITUTING A PROCESS OF SUING HER
FOR DEFAMING THE ARMY AND PEOPLE CONNECTED WITH IT. SHE
DID NOT KNOW WHETHER THIS WILL BE IN A CIVILIAN OR A
MILITARY COURT. MY MAIN CONCERN IS THAT THIS HARASSMENT
OF MRS. TOWNLEY MAY LEAD TO A SITUATION IN WHICH SHE IS

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NOT PERMITTED TO LEAVE CHILE WHEN SHE DESIRES. THE
CHILEAN GOVERNMENT KNOWS THAT SHE HAS TESTIFIED BEFORE A
GRAND JURY AND PROBABLY KNOWS THAT SHE IS CONSIDERING
RELOCATING IN THE UNITED STATES. I WOULD APPRECIATE IT
IF YOU COULD LOOK INTO THIS SITUATION TO SEE IF THERE IS
ANY SUBSTANCE TO IT. ADDITIONALLY, MRS. TOWNLEY EXPRESSED
A DESIRE TO TALK TO ALFREDO ETCHEBERRY ABOUT THE SITUATION.

I WOULD LIKE HIM TO TALK TO HER ABOUT IT TO FIND OUT WHAT IS GOING ON. HE MIGHT CONSIDER WHAT HER OPTIONS ARE AND ADVISE ME ON THEM. IF SHE DESIRES HIM TO REPRESENT HER AND HE WISHES TO, I HAVE ABSOLUTELY NO OBJECTION UNLESS HE FEELS THAT THIS MIGHT INHIBIT HIS REPRESENTATION OF THE UNITED STATES BEFORE THE SUPREME COURT WHEN THE EXTRADITION PROCEEDINGS BEGIN. IF THERE IS A POSSIBILITY OF ANY EMBARRASMENT EITHER TO ETCHEBERRY, MRS. TOWNLEY, OR THE U.S., ETCHEBERRY SHOULD NOT REPRESENT HER BUT SHOULD ASSIST HER IN LOCATING ANOTHER COMPETENT ATTORNEY.

I WOULD ALSO LIKE ALFREDO ADVISED THAT WE WOULD LIKE HIM TO COME TO THE UNITED STATES AROUND THE MIDDLE OF JULY. THIS DATE IS FLEXIBLE AND I CAN ARRANGE A DATE TO FIT HIS SCHEDULE.

I WAS SURPRISED TO LEARN THAT YOU DID NOT HAVE A COPY OF THE INTERVIEW WITH GENERAL VERNON WALTERS. I ADVISED AGENT CORNICK OF THIS FACT AND HE IS HAVING SCHERRER CABLE YOU A COPY IMMEDIATELY. PLEASE ADVISE IF YOU HAVE ANY DIFFICULTY GETTING IT. END QUOTE. VANCE

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